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MEMORANDUM	FOR:	Chief.	New	Building	Planning	Office
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Office of Logistics

THROUGH: Associate Deputy Director for Administration.

FROM:
Chief, Safety Staff, DDA

SUBJECT: 35% Design Plans for the New Addition to

Headquarters Building

REFERENCE: Memo for C/BPS/OL from C/SS/DDA dated

31 May 1983, Subject: Fire Protection for

Computer Room Raised Floor Space in the Planned

Addition to Headquarters Building

- 1. The 35% design documents for the new addition to Headquarters building have been reviewed by the Safety Staff for compliance with the Life Safety Code and other applicable criteria. The following comments on the building design are considered to have a major impact on the project and should be addressed immediately:
 - a. The Ground Floor Composite Plan contains the following exit deficiencies:
 - (1) The floor area has an occupancy load of approximately people but the capacity of the available exits is An additional 5 exit units are required.

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- (2) The exit capacity indicated at the existing building cannot be utilized. These exits are required for the existing building.
- (3) The egress corridors from the north and south stairwells to the outside are not wide enough to handle the combined flow of the exit access corridors and the stairs. The width of the corridors needs to be increased.

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- (4) The north and south stairs need to be separated from the corridor by two hour fire rated construction and a fire door. Do not make the stairs part of the corridor by running the corridor through the stairs.
- (5) There are several areas that have excessive common paths of travel as indicated on the drawings. These areas need to be redesigned or provided with additional exits.
- (6) Verify that the number of exit units indicated are correct. The actual number of units available is restricted to the lesser of the exit door width or the access corridor width.
- b. The First Floor Composite Plan contains the following exit deficiencies:
 - (1) The computer spaces have an insufficient number of exits. Provide at least two additional exits at the points indicated. A minimum of 8 exit units are required.
 - (2) Do not provide for thru traffic in the two central stairwells. Delete the single entrance door.
 - (3) Relocate the double doors indicated in order to separate the exit corridor from the atrium, or reroute the exit corridor so it does not pass thru the atrium.
 - (4) Enclose the corridors that lead from the north and south corridors to the outside with two hour fire rated construction and fire doors.
 - (5) Ensure that the egress corridors from the central stairwells is wide enough to accommodate the combined egress flow from the stairs and the atrium corridor.
 - (6) The exterior passageways along column line Kl are not wide enough to handle the combined flow of the cafeteria occupants and the new building occupants. Widen the passageway or provide an additional means of egress.

- c. The Second Floor Composite Plan contains the following exit deficiencies:
 - (1) An additional 2 exit units are required to provide the necessary egress capacity from this floor.
 - (2) Reduce the excessive path of travel in the areas indicated to a distance less than 50 feet or provide additional exits.
- d. The Third Floor Composite Plan contains the following exit deficiencies:
 - (1) An additional 3 exit units are required to provide the necessary egress capacity for this floor area.
 - (2) The corridors that lead to the two west stairwells restrict the egress capacity to 3 exit units at the entrance to the stairs. The width of the corridor needs to be increased at this point.
- e. Fourth Floor Composite Plan contains the following egress deficiencies:

The design requires the people in each tower to exit the building through the atrium. Exiting through the atrium is prohibited by the Life Safety Code.

This creates an exiting deficiency for approximately people. Separate the exit from the atrium or provide additional exits.

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f. Fifth and Sixth Floor Composite Plan contain the following egress deficiencies:

Each floor area needs an additional exiting capacity for approximately people.

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q. Penthouse Composite Plan

Each penthouse area requires a second vertical means of egress. This egress should extend directly into a stairwell.

- 2. The following additional comments should be incorporated into the project:
 - a. Enclose the paper storage rooms on the ground floor level with two hour fire-rated construction.
 - b. Separate the trash chute from the classified trash area on the ground floor level with two hour fire-rated construction.
 - c. Separate the electrical substations, UPS areas and the fast response power system from the rest of the room on the ground floor with two hour fire-rated construction.
 - d. Provide an additional exit from the east side of the central mailroom on the ground floor.
 - e. Provide adequate exits from all three computer areas.
 - f. Provide an additional exit from the west section of the tape vault on the third floor.
 - g. Provide additional exits from the 4th and 6th floor office areas shown as areas 2 and 10 on the key plan. The corridor wall on column line El may create an excessive common path of travel. Provide an exit door on this wall as shown.
 - h. Provide flammable liquids storage cabinets for the laboratory areas.
 - i. Provide separate storage facilities for the chemical storage and paper storage shown on sheet 8D.
 - j. Do not locate the washer, dryer, and refrigerator in the chemical storage area shown on sheet 9D.
- 3. The following general comments should be incorporated into the project:
 - a. The Safety Staff requires the installation of a Halon fire extinguishing system for the underfloor areas of the computer rooms for the reasons indicated in reference. The system should be actuated by fixed temperature heat detectors and electric manual release stations. Provide one manifold system per floor with a reserve bank of Halon.

- b. Do not provide raised flooring in the laboratory spaces. The raised floor creates a void space that would collect flammable vapors and chemical spills.
- c. Locate the building fire pump within the building itself. Provide calculations to verify that the pump is properly sized.
- d. Do not provide pressure reducing valves on the water main lines that feed the fire hydrants and the new fire pump. If these valves are required they should be installed on the domestic lines in the building.
- 4. It is evident from the number of deficiencies noted above that a meeting between the A&E Fire Safety Consultant and the Safety Staff is long past due and should take place as soon as possible to insure that all fire protection requirements are met and included in the specifications.

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Attachment